Notes: Siletz Valley Charter School 2025-26 Budget Committee

1. March 12 Work session

Board appoints Budget Committee

1. Christina Bushnell - Lead
2. Tracey Viar - Board Representative 1
3. Clifton Berry - Board Representative 2
4. Superintendent Redlinger - Advisory to Board

Discussed the need for planning the first meeting. More information was needed about the members' schedules, so the first meeting was not set up at that time.

2. April 21

First Budget Committee Meeting

In attendance:

Christina Bushnell - Lead, Tracey Viar - Board Representative 1, Clifton Berry - Board Representative 2, Superintendent Redlinger - Advisory to Board (D. Barnes - Admin Intern)

Learned about the current situation in the state, situation in the school (declining enrollment makes staffing the next biennium a challenge), reviewed potential legislation that are considered budget disrupters, and reviewed board goals.

Learned about Budget Categories, Revenue by Fund, Projected Revenue, and Assumptions (pending ending fund balance, increased costs, legislative revenue changes, state grant allocations and requirements, and new legislative requirements.)

- The committee recommended a Staff Survey about benefits and asked to review scenarios based on staff feedback, and lastly, continue to watch updates from the legislature.
- Potential Disruptor Overview: All state funded schools must measure outcomes and improve outcomes each year in Mathematics and English Language Arts.
    - Poor academic performance and lack of growth may lead to loss of control over 25% of the state funds AND the Student Investment Account (SIA) funds, (guided spending from the state required in the following year.
    - New measures of interim academic measures are required and must be implemented next year. (Reading, Writing, Math)

3. April 24

Second Budget Committee Meeting

In attendance: Christina Bushnell - Lead, Tracey Viar - Board Representative 1, Clifton Berry - Board Representative 2, Superintendent Redlinger - Advisory to Board (D. Barnes - Admin Intern)

Learned about revenue sources, and reductions due to charter status (per student allocation less 20% for each K-8 student, and less 5% for each 9-12.) Charter schools DO NOT receive state help with PERS costs. LCSD pays 0 (LCSD has a bond that keeps the rate low) and our school pays 30% for PERS for our staff members' retirement. An important benefit but very expensive. Overall package available to staff explained.

The committee suggested a Staff Survey be completed.

4. April 29

Third Budget Committee Hearing

In attendance: Christina Bushnell - Lead, Tracey Viar - Board Representative 1, Clifton Berry - Board Representative 2, Superintendent Redlinger - Advisory to Board (D. Barnes - Admin Intern)

Survey Results shared with the committee. The Budget Committee requested that the draft budget be revised with staff recommendations included and shared at the May 5th meeting.

5. May 5

Fourth Budget Committee Meeting

Christina Bushnell - Lead, Tracey Viar - Board Representative 1, Clifton Berry - Board Representative 2, Superintendent Redlinger - Advisory to Board (D. Barnes - Admin Intern)

Changes included: increase school calendar days, step increases, some reductions in benefits.

Staff reductions required due to decreased enrollment at elementary, middle and high school.

6. May 7th

Budget Committee Public Comment Meeting

In attendance: Christina Bushnell - Lead, Tracey Viar - Board Representative 1, Clifton Berry - Board Representative 2, Superintendent Redlinger - Advisory to Board (D. Barnes - Admin Intern)

Among suggestions received:

- The new Alt Program should NOT be started since staff positions are being cut and/or not refilled.
- Add PD/Grade days back into the Calendar - teachers need these days.

7. May 12th

Fifth Budget Committee Meeting

In attendance: Christina Bushnell - Lead, Tracey Viar - Board Representative 1, Clifton Berry - Board Representative 2, Superintendent Redlinger - Advisory to Board (D. Barnes - Admin Intern), Will Worman, Board Chair

Reviewed teacher recommendations and built them into a revised draft budget.

- Options Program removed from budget, will be reviewed for the 2026-27 budget.

8. May 15th

6th and Last Budget Committee Meeting:

In attendance: Christina Bushnell - Lead, Tracey Viar - Board Representative 1, Clifton Berry - Board Representative 2, Superintendent Redlinger - Advisory to Board (D. Barnes - Admin Intern), Will Worman - Board Chair

The committee Discussed Revised Budget, then voted to move it to the full board for approval. The revised Budget included staffing levels recommended at each level.

The work of the Budget Committee is concluded.